United Nations S/AC.37/2003/(1455)/50

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 June 2003

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999)

Note verbale dated 12 June 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and, with reference to the latter's note dated 4 March 2003, requesting Member States to submit an updated report to the Committee pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1455 (2003), has the honour to submit herewith the updated report of Thailand (see annex).

03-39636 (E) 250603

Annex to the note verbale dated 12 June 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

Thailand's implementation report pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 12 of resolution 1455 (2003)

I. Introduction

1. *Description of activities by Usama Bin Laden, Al-Qaeda, the Taliban and their associates in Thailand, the threat they pose to the country and the region, as well as trend*

- Thailand has adopted a firm policy in condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In practice, all authorities concerned have done their utmost to ensure that Thailand will not be used as a base for the commission of any terrorist acts against any other countries and that terrorist will never find a safe haven in Thailand.
- All intelligence agencies, be it civilian, military or law enforcement, have accorded high priority to information sharing and networking with their foreign counterparts, especially the U.S. agencies. Since 11 September 2001, all Thai intelligence agencies have intensified their cooperation in the investigation and the search for suspects of the incident by checking their criminal records and the record of their visit to Thailand, as well as monitoring their movement.
- According to the latest intelligence assessment by the Thai authorities concerned, it is unlikely that terrorist groups such as Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) or Al-Qaeda have networks, supporters or important activities in Thailand. However, authorities have remained vigilant in monitoring activities of extremist elements.

II. Consolidated list

2. *The incorporation of the 1267 Committee's List within Thailand's legal system and administrative structure, including financial supervision, police, immigration control, customs and consular authorities*

- Article 12 (7) of the Immigration Act (1979) stipulates that the competent Thai authority has the right to deny entry to the Kingdom of any person or persons whose behaviour is deemed to be harmful to the peace and safety of public or national security, or being under a warrant of arrest issued by a competent authority of a foreign government.
- After 11 September 2001, all security and law enforcement agencies have stepped up measures to detect, monitor and be alert to any movement of persons or groups believed to associate with terrorist organizations, with a view to preventing them from infiltrating into the country or using Thailand as a base for the commission of terrorist attacks within or outside Thailand.

- The Immigration Bureau of Thailand has incorporated the 1267 Committee's List in the black list and distributed it in diskette form to the Thai authorities concerned both within and outside Thailand. These diskettes are updated on a regular basis.

- The existing domestic laws do not provide a legal basis for the authorities concerned, such as the Bank of Thailand or the Anti-Money Laundering Office, to freeze the transfer of funds or financial resources of persons or entities suspected of committing or facilitating the commission of terrorist acts. In this regard, the Bank of Thailand has applied administrative measures by circulating a note with the 1267 Committee's List to all commercial banks and financial institutions requesting their cooperation to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

- Circulars of the Bank of Thailand have no legal binding force. However, in practice, all commercial banks and monetary institutes in Thailand follow the guidelines in such circulars and report their actions to the Bank of Thailand.

- In order to close this legal loophole, the Council of State submitted draft amendments to the Penal Code and to the Money Laundering Act to the Cabinet on 11 December 2001. The thrust of the draft amendment to the Money Laundering Act is to make terrorist acts under the Penal Code an offence under the Money Laundering law as well. Once Parliament approves these two draft amendments, the Anti-Money Laundering Office will be empowered to freeze the transfer of funds or financial resources of alleged terrorists and their accomplices. At present, the draft amendments are under the consideration of the Commission of the House of Representatives.

3. *Problems with implementation with regard to the names and identifying information as currently included in the List*

- Terrorist suspects often travel with counterfeit documents and identification. The information received is often incomplete. The Thai side may be informed of only the name of the suspected person and no other relevant information, such as the last name or birth date. In cases where there are many persons using the same name, which is not unusual for people of Arab origin, complete information is necessary to help confirm the true identification of such person.

- Incomplete information such as no data on gender or passport number makes it impossible for authorities concerned to include such information in the official watch list.

4. *Have Thai authorities identified inside your territory any designated individuals or entities?*

- None

5. *The names of individuals or entities associated with Usama Bin Laden or members of the Taliban or Al-Qaeda that have not been included in the List*

- None

6. *Listed individuals or entities brought a lawsuit or engaged in legal proceedings against Thai authorities for inclusion in the List*

- None

7. *Any of the listed individuals as nationals or residents of Thailand*

- None

8. *National legislation measures taken to prevent entities and individuals from recruiting or supporting Al-Qaeda members in carrying out activities inside Thailand, and to prevent individuals from participating in Al-Qaeda training camps established in Thailand's territory or in another country*

- The draft amendment to the Penal Code defines the scope of terrorism and prescribes the act of terrorism as a serious offence under Thai criminal law. The proposed punishment ranges from a fine of 200,000-1,000,000 Baht to the death sentence. Any person who threatens to commit such an offence or is an accomplice thereof would receive the same punishment as the perpetrator of the crime of terrorism. Persons engaging in various forms of attempted commission of the crime are subject to a lesser punishment, ranging from a fine of 60,000-300,000 Baht to 3-15 years of imprisonment.

- The draft amendment to the Penal Code which stipulates the terrorist act as a serious crime with severe punishment would punish not only perpetrators of the crime but also their accomplices, including persons or entities making funds or financial assets available to them.

- The draft amendment to the Penal Code stipulates severe punishment on recruitment of members of terrorist groups and supply of weapons to terrorists, either in the form of direct support or facilitation of the commission of terrorist acts.

III. Financial and economic assets freeze

9. *The domestic legal basis to implement the asset freeze required by resolution 1267 (1999), and paragraphs 1 and 2 (a) of resolution 1390 (2002) as well as impediments under Thailand's domestic law in this context and steps taken to address them*

- The Thai Government has issued instructions to all authorities concerned to comply with United Nations Security Council resolutions on freezing of transfer of funds or financial resources belonging to the Taliban, Usama Bin Laden and the Al-Qaeda network. However, existing domestic laws do not provide a legal basis for the authorities concerned to freeze the transfer of funds or financial resources of persons or entities suspected of committing or facilitating the commission of terrorist acts.

- The authorities concerned and the Council of State have considered the relevant domestic laws and regulations in order to make necessary amendments thereof in order to implement the resolution in full. In this regard, two draft amendments on the Penal Code and the Anti-Money Laundering Act were initiated to empower the relevant authorities, particularly the Anti-Money Laundering Office, in taking effective counter-measures against money-

laundering and other illegitimate financing. Moreover, the draft amendment of the Penal Code defines the scope of terrorism and prescribes the act of terrorism as a serious offence with severe punishments under the Thai criminal code.

10. *Structures or mechanisms in place within the Thai Government to identify and investigate Usama Bin Laden, Al-Qaeda or Taliban-related financial networks, or those who provide support to them or individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them within Thailand's jurisdiction*

- Pursuant to the Money Laundering Act, financial institutions, government units under the Department of Lands and traders engaging in businesses involving the operation of or consultation in a transaction related to the investment or mobilization of capital are required to report any suspicious transactions to the Anti-Money Laundering Office.
- Section 3 of the Act defines "financial institution" as:
  - The Bank of Thailand, a commercial bank and such banks as specifically established by law;
  - Finance companies, credit financier companies and securities companies under the law on securities and stock exchange;
  - The Industrial Finance Corporation of Thailand and small industrial finance corporations;
  - Life insurance companies and insurance companies;
  - Savings cooperatives; or
  - Juristic persons carrying on such other businesses related to finance as prescribed in a Ministerial Regulation.
- Therefore, under the sixth definition, "financial institution" can be broadly interpreted to cover the intermediaries outside the main financial sector.
- The penalty for non-compliance with the requirement to report suspicious transactions is a fine up to 300,000 Baht.
- In the proposed draft amendment to the Money Laundering act, the terrorist offence stipulated in the Penal Code is designated as one of the predicated offences under the Money Laundering Act, which will enable the authority concerned i.e., the Anti-Money Laundering Office, to freeze funds, financial assets and other economic resources of entities and persons who support terrorism.
- The Money Laundering Act empowers the Transaction Committee, appointed by the Anti-Money Laundering Office, to examine a transaction or property relating to the commission of an act of terrorism, as one of predicated offences under the Act. According to Section 48, the Committee can withhold authorization for the maximum of 90 days transactions that are believed to be related to terrorism. The law further enables the Committee to order a seizure or attachment of any property found to be connected with the commission of an offence under the Money Laundering Act.

- The two draft amendments to the Penal Code and the Anti-Money Laundering Act mentioned above have taken into account the requirements of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. The proposed amendment to the Penal Code states that an offence of terrorism shall be severely punished, and it also extends the punishment to any kind of supporter who provides financial or physical assistance. According to the revised Money Laundering Act, the authority concerned i.e., the Anti-Money Laundering Office, is empowered to freeze any funding relating to a terrorist act. In this respect, the two amendments not only fully implement Thailand's obligations under the relevant UNSC resolutions, but also comply with her future obligations under the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, which she has yet to ratify.

- The Anti-Money Laundering Office received the 1267 Committee's List from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the U.S. Government Executive Order 13224 terrorist financing list from the U.S. Embassy in Thailand. The Office examined these names against its database but found nothing and the providers were informed of the results. Additionally, the Office also requested cooperation from financial institutions to report to the Office without delay whenever they have listed individuals or entities as their customers.

- The Anti-Laundering Office has been a member of the BGMONT Group since 2000. This membership has enabled the Office to have access to and exchange information with all 57 members.

- The Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act (1992) forms a broad basis for cooperation with other countries in criminal matters; i.e., taking testimony and statements of persons; providing documents, records and evidence for prosecution and search and forfeiture of properties. The thrust of the law is based on principles of double criminality and reciprocity that allow Thailand to extend assistance in criminal matters to virtually every country. The law is supplemented by the Treaties of Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters that Thailand has with five countries; namely, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France and Norway.

- Apart from the Act on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992), Thailand also has the Extradition Act of 1929. The Act of 1929 provides another channel of judicial cooperation with other countries. Like the Act on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the main thrust of the Act is also based on the two basic principles of double criminality and reciprocity. It is supplemented by 14 bilateral extradition treaties with friendly countries; namely, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Indonesia, the Philippines, the United States, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Laos, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Malaysia, Fiji, Canada and Australia.

11. *Steps that banks and/or other financial institutions are required to take to locate and identify assets attributable to, or for the benefit of, Usama Bin Laden or members of Al-Qaeda or the Taliban, or associated entities or individuals*

- The Bank of Thailand has taken measures as follows:

  – Issued a circular requesting the Thai Bankers' Association, the Association of Finance Companies and the Foreign Banks' Association to distribute the 1267 Committee's List to all commercial banks and financial institutions.

All commercial banks and financial institutions have been requested to promptly report their suspicions if any transactions that may be linked, or related to, terrorism, terrorist acts or terrorist organizations are carried out.

- Issued a notification letter to financial institutions regarding the correct practices in accepting deposit for opening account, and prohibits the use of an assumed name or alias to comply with the "Know Your Customer" Policy. Financial institutions are required to follow the Policy by having their customers identify themselves.
- In accordance with Thailand's existing exchange control law,
  - Transfer of funds into or out of Thailand has to be reported to the Bank of Thailand; and
  - Foreign exchange must be supported by relevant documents of the underlying transactions.

12. *List of the assets that have been frozen in accordance with resolution 1455 (2003)*

- None

13. *Financial assets or economic assets previously frozen as being related to Usama Bin Laden or members of the Al-Qaeda or the Taliban or associated individuals or entities, pursuant to resolution 1452 (2002)*

- None

14. *Thailand's domestic legal basis, including a brief description of laws, regulations and/or procedures to control the movements of funds or financial assets to designated individuals and entities, pursuant to resolutions 1455 (2003), 1390 (2001), 1333 (2000) and 1267 (1999)*

- Please refer to No. 9-11.
- The proposed amendment to the Penal Code states that any person providing "force, arms, *properties or any support* for the commission of terrorism" is considered to be committing an act of terrorism. If found guilty, that person will be subject to either the death penalty, life imprisonment or imprisonment ranging from three years to twenty years, and shall also pay a fine of 60,000-1,000,000 Baht. Furthermore, the amendment punishes many person who *provides or compiles any property* in order to commit a terrorist act.
- Under the Exchange Control Act (1942), all persons or legal entities that provide services for the transmission of money or valuables must be approved by the Ministry of Finance under the recommendation of the Bank of Thailand. Any persons or legal entities that carry out this service illegally will be subject to criminal sanctions under this law.
- According to Notification No. 13 issued by the Bank of Thailand under the authority of the Money Exchange Controls Act of 1942, any person (except authorized banks, companies or persons) shall not buy, sell, loan, exchange or transfer foreign money or other foreign mediums of exchange without permission.

- Any person who does not comply with this Act is liable to a fine up to 20,000 Baht or to an imprisonment up to three years or to both.

IV. Travel ban

15. *An outline of the legislative and/or administrative measures taken to implement the travel ban*

- Intelligence and security agencies in Thailand have been on high alert since the 11 September incident. Tight measures are in place to inspect and monitor any movement of terrorists. A watch list of persons who have any connection with terrorist groups was prepared to be shared among all agencies concerned so that they can cooperate to prevent suspects from entering the country.
- The immigration procedures start with the application for a visa at Thai Embassies and Consulates abroad. Thailand has reduced the number of countries eligible for visa exemption from 57 to 38 and the number of countries whose nationals may apply for a visa at the immigration checkpoint upon arrival has been reduced from 96 to 15. The Royal Thai Government has also introduced stricter visa application procedures for certain target groups. The requirement for visa application allows more time for authorities to check the identification of applicants to ensure that those who want to travel to Thailand are not on the black list. Therefore, it is very important that the database be constantly updated.

16 and 17. *Steps taken to include the names of the listed individuals in a national "stop list" or border checkpoint list, frequency of transmission of the updated List to border control authorities, and the capability of searching List data using electronic means at all entry points.*

- In an effort to enhance its capacity in controlling the movement of people more effectively, the Immigration Bureau of Thailand has provided for necessary equipment.
  - The Bureau has installed a computerized system to monitor and collect information on incoming and outgoing passengers at all international airports.
  - Black List diskettes with the 1267 Committee's List incorporated are distributed to all 53 immigration border checkpoints as well as to the Thai Embassies and Consulates abroad to improve the efficiency of inspection of incoming and outgoing peoples. These diskettes are updated on a bimonthly basis.
  - The Bureau is also in the process of installing a system linking all ports of entry with online data. It is expected that the project will be completed in the near future.
  - The Bureau has also installed passport machines to check, prevent and arrest suspected terrorists and targeted persons in the Black List or Watch List, including persons who are under arrest warrants.

– Passport inspection equipment has also been installed at all international airports and key border checkpoints, such as the ones along the border with Malaysia.

18. *Listed individuals stopped at any of Thailand's border points or while transiting Thai territory*

- No report on listed individuals at any of our border checkpoints or transiting our territory.

19. *Outline of the measures taken to incorporate the List in the reference database of Thai Consular offices*

- Please refer to No. 15-17.
- No report on any visa applicants whose name appears on the 1267 Committee's List.

V. Arms embargo

20-23. *Measures to prevent the acquisition of conventional arms and WMD by Usama Bin Laden, members of the Al-Qaeda organization and the Taliban, and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them / Export Controls to prevent the above targets from obtaining the items and technology necessary for weapons development and production*

Measures to criminalize the violation of the arms embargo directed at Usama Bin Laden, members of Al-Qaeda organization and the Taliban, and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them

Arms/arms broker licensing system / Safeguards of weapons and ammunition produced within Thailand

- The Ministry of Defence, at present, reports on an annual basis on the import and export of seven kinds of conventional arms, such as battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles and missile launchers through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNSCR). The UNSCR controls the import and export of conventional arms that belong to its member States.
- As a State Party of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), Thailand has fully complied with its obligations and is committed to the international and non-discriminatory verification activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). The Royal Thai Government has already enacted legislation for the full implementation of the CWC. The Ministry of Industry has now concluded the Initial Declaration and is now expediting the process of its approval by the Cabinet, as required by the Constitution, before submitting it to the OPCW.
- Thailand is a State Party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has its Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Thailand supports the recent proposals by the IAEA on the issue of protection against nuclear terrorism. The Office of Atom for Peace is accelerating the process to conclude the Additional Protocol with the IAEA.

- The proposed amendment to the Penal Code will penalize any person who "provides forces, arms, properties or any support for the commission of an act or an act of terrorism". Furthermore, the amendment covers offences relating to terrorism, namely recruiting persons, stockpiling weapons, providing or complying any property, or organizing any preparation or conspiracy in order to commit a terrorist act. These two provisions enable compliance with the subparagraph.

- The relevant laws that regulate the domestic manufacture, sale, possession and disposition of weapons are:

  - *The Munitions of War Control Act of 1987*, which prohibits a person from importing, procuring, manufacturing or possessing weapons except with the permission of the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Defence. The Act also states that permission shall not be given to any person who may cause any violence to the public peace.

  - Under *The Firearms, Ammunition, Explosive Articles and Fireworks and Imitation of Firearms Act 1974*, any person shall not manufacture, purchase, possess, use, or import guns, bullets or explosives without permission from the registrar. The permission shall not be given to any person who may cause any violence to the public peace.

- Both the Munitions of War Control Act of 1987 and the Firearms, Ammunition, Explosive Articles and Fireworks and Imitation of Firearms Act of 1974 stipulate that the import of weapons and explosives is prohibited except with permission from the competent authorities. The two Acts also proscribe any manufacture or any purchase of arms and weapons. Therefore, the trading and manufacturing of weapons and explosives are regulated and controlled by the competent government agencies. Furthermore, the Act on Export Control of Armaments and Materials of 1952 and the Decree on the Export Control of Armaments and Materials of 1992 subjects and export or trans-shipment of weapons and explosives to the permission of the Minister of Defence or a person designated by the Minister, and to the conditions of the export or trans-shipment as follows:

  - A foreign Government shall request an export or trans-shipment pursuant to an agreement with the Royal Thai Government.

  - They shall be the Government's armaments and materials used in wartime, authorized by the Minister of Defence.

  - The export or trans-shipment shall be undertaken publicly as a business authorized by the Minister of Defence.

- In the interest of enhancing our abilities to combat terrorism, on 19 August and 31 October 2002, the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence issued orders for various agencies to take all measures within their authority for strict compliance to the law by all handlers of firearms. These new measures include closer monitoring of sensitive materials by all provincial administrations. In addition, each province is tasked with the responsibility of preparing a detailed report of the use of detonated materials on every first day of each month. The Permanent Secretary of Interior has been authorized to approve all movements

of sensitive materials across provincial borders. Armed military personnel must accompany movement of these materials.

- It is widely accepted that a large-scale terrorist attack requires extensive planning and includes the acquisition of explosive materials such as ammonium nitrate, TNT, power-gel and/or C4 as well as detonators. Taking the above into account, the Thai Government has intensified its control and regulation of sensitive explosive materials and has tightened its surveillance of foreign persons that have irregular patterns of movement in Thailand.

- Imports and exports of prohibited and restricted goods are criminal offences and offenders are subject to punishment in accordance with the relevant laws governing the import and export of such goods. The Customs Act of 1926 also provides for punishment of those who submit false information on goods to be imported and exported. Offenders are subject to imprisonment up to 10 years.

- Generally, customs officers spot check goods to be exported and imported that are not subject to any restrictions or duties. Imports and exports of prohibited and restricted goods are subject to a thorough inspection. After 11 September, Thailand has enforced more stringent measures for both imports and exports, especially goods going to and coming from target countries which are also thoroughly checked.

- Thailand is committed to cooperating with other countries in putting in place customs procedures that will guard against terrorism. The Thai Government will shortly sign a Declaration of Principle with the United States that will pave the way for the implementation of the "Container Security Initiative" or the CSI. Under the CSI, Thai customs officers will work closely with their United States counterparts in detecting "suspect" containers, and stringent procedures for cargo shipment will be implemented.

- Thai customs authorities have had good cooperation in information and intelligence exchange with customs attachés of the United States, United Kingdom, Japan, Republic of Korea, Australia and New Zealand stationed in Bangkok. As there is a lot of cargo coming in and out each day, it would be helpful if authorities receive information of any suspicious shipments. Therefore, intelligence sharing is as important for customs officers as it is for immigration authorities.

- Thailand is also member of the Asia-Pacific Regional Intelligence Liaison Office, which has its headquarters in Tokyo. The Customs Services of 27 countries from Asia-Pacific and South Asia, including those of 18 ARF countries, participate in this forum. It provides a good opportunity for customs officers in the region to share their experiences and intelligence. Past cooperation has focused on the issue of narcotic drugs, but it could be expanded to other issues relating to terrorism which has become a serious concern to the international community, such as illegal arms, chemicals and WMD.

VI. Assistance and conclusion

24. *Assistance provided to other States to help implement the measures contained in the aforementioned resolutions*

- Thailand is a flourishing open society based on democratic principles of governance. We aspire to become a regional communications, aviation and tourism hub. The Thai Government has invested a vast amount of resources to achieve those goals. It is in our national interest to ensure the success of such goals. The Thai Government is committed to doing its utmost to prevent terrorist acts and activities in the Kingdom. We will continue to work closely with our friends and neighbours in the fight against terrorism.

- Terrorism is a common threat to all nations. Close cooperation is essential in our efforts to prevent acts of terrorism. Thailand appreciates the friendly nations who have cooperated with us and wishes to continue to exchange information with all nations in order to successfully fight terrorism.

- On the international front, Thailand has already signed an MOU on Counter Terrorism Cooperation with Australia and has acceded to the regional counter-terrorism cooperation effort, namely the Agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures between Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and Cambodia. It is also important to note the recently enhanced cooperation within the ASEAN intelligence community.

- On the domestic front, a "community watch" campaign is being carried out to raise public awareness of the danger of terrorism and to encourage the people to assist authorities by reporting suspicious activities in their community.

25. *Area of incomplete information of the Taliban/Al-Qaeda sanction regime, and specific assistance or capacity-building to improve Thailand's ability to implement the above sanction regime*

- After 11 September, the various Thai intelligence agencies have enhanced coordination among themselves to ensure effectiveness and unity in overall operation. Thai intelligence authorities have intensified their cooperation in information and intelligence exchange with foreign counterparts. However, requests for intelligence or its verification have come in such large numbers that, given our limited human resources, it is simply impossible to verify all the intelligence received. But the authorities have tried their best and have done as much as they can.

- When receiving requests from officials of some embassies in Bangkok to detain or expel suspected persons, our immigration authorities have tried to be as cooperative as possible. However, if the requests contain incomplete information, authorities are at risk if they take actions against innocent persons. They are held accountable for such actions.

- Thailand is a hub of transportation and tourism in the region. While having to facilitate passengers travelling on legitimate businesses, we realize the need to enforce stricter immigration measures. With up to 25,000-28,000 persons travelling in and out of the country by air each day, accurate and timely intelligence can greatly enhance the ability of authorities in identifying and stopping "suspect" passengers.

- Thailand is aware of the need of certain States to warn its citizens against harm. However, we believe such warnings should be based on indisputable evidence of the nature of the threat. Hasty warning often disrupts tourism and therefore the economic growth of those countries targeted. More importantly, it

causes misperceptions that lead to a long-term loss of confidence in the safety of target countries. In this regard, the results are damaging to country relationships, as well as being an obstacle to cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.

26. *Additional information*

- The Royal Thai Government is committed to the United Nations Charter, in particular Article 25 which stipulates that all Member States of the United Nations must agree to accept and carry out the decision of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter. Therefore, Thailand is legally bound by all Security Council resolutions.

- The two draft amendments to the Penal Code and the Money Laundering Act will increase the effectiveness of Thai law in dealing with terrorism. The draft amendment to the Penal Code would make Thai laws cover every step in terrorism, including the preparation, the aiding and abettors, and the actual commission of acts of terrorism. The confines of the offences is not territorially limited to acts committed in Thailand, but also includes the commission of terrorist acts aimed at other countries or international organizations. The proposed amendment to the Money Laundering Act that incorporates as a crime under the Act acts of terrorism under the Penal Code will empower the Office of Anti-Money Laundering to promptly freeze the transfer of funds or financial assets of alleged terrorists or terrorist organizations.

- The signing of the International Convention on the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism on 18 December 2001 reaffirms Thailand's commitment to the relevant Security Council resolutions, especially with regard to financial measures. It also reflects Thailand's determination to cooperate with the international community in the attempt to eradicate all terrorist groups within global reach by cutting off their financial supplies.